

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a current listing of claims and will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as follows:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

a device receiving input indicative of a user-specified length of time;

[[a]] the device receiving incoming sound;

the device storing data representative of the incoming sound in a buffer;

in response to determining, at a first point in time, that the incoming sound satisfies an initiation criteria, the device:

retrieving data from the buffer, wherein the data retrieved from the buffer is representative of the incoming sound received during an interval of time preceding the first point in time, wherein the interval of time has a length corresponding to the user-specified length of time;

wirelessly transmitting the data retrieved from the buffer;

wirelessly transmitting data that is representative of incoming sound received after the first point in time; and

in response to determining that the received incoming sound satisfies a termination criteria at a second point in time subsequent to the first point in time, the device discontinuing the wireless transmission of the data that is representative of the incoming sound.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the buffer is a FIFO buffer.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the initiation criteria comprises a sound intensity level of the incoming sound exceeding a first threshold.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the termination criteria comprises a sound intensity level of the incoming sound being below a second threshold.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the second threshold is lower than the first threshold.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the second threshold is the same as the first threshold.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the initiation criteria comprises a spectral power density of the sound exceeding a first threshold.
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the initiation criteria comprises at least one moving average of the sound intensity level of the incoming sound exceeding a first threshold.
18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, ~~further comprising varying the length of the data retrieved from the buffer based on a user input~~
wherein the receiving the input indicative of the user-specified length of time includes receiving input via a menu selection, a knob, or a dial; and
wherein the length of the interval of time corresponding to the user-specified length of time is adjusted based on the received input.
19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising varying the length of the data retrieved from the buffer based on at least one of: a sound intensity level of the incoming sound, and a spectral power density of the incoming sound.
20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the device is a wireless telephone.

21. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
a device receiving input indicative of a user-specified length of time;
[[a]] the device receiving incoming sound;
the device identifying, within the incoming sound, a first time segment corresponding to sound that is above a threshold and a second time segment, immediately preceding the first time segment, corresponding to sound that is below the threshold;
the device wirelessly transmitting data corresponding to sound received during the first time segment; and
the device wirelessly transmitting data corresponding to sound received during a first sub-portion of the second time segment that immediately precedes the beginning of the first segment, wherein the first sub-portion of the second time segment has a length corresponding to the user-specified length of time, wherein data corresponding to sound received during a second sub-portion of the second time segment that is not part of the first sub-portion is not wirelessly transmitted.
22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the device is a wireless telephone.
- 23-24. (Canceled)
25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising storing the data corresponding to the sound received during the first time segment and the data corresponding to the sound received during a first sub-portion of the second time segment on a recording medium.
26. (Canceled)
27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the receiving the input indicative of the user-specified length of time includes receiving input via a menu selection, and wherein the length of the first sub-portion corresponding to the user-specified length of time is entered by a user via the menu selection. ~~further comprising varying the length of the first sub-portion of the second time segment based on a user input.~~

28. (Currently Amended) A device, comprising:
a user interface configured to receive input indicative of a user-specified length of time;
an input interface configured to receive input data representing sound;
a wireless transmission interface configured to facilitate transmitting data on a recording medium;

a processor; and
memory having stored thereon instructions executable by the device to cause the device to:

identify one or more detected sound segments and one or more effective silence segments within the sound;

transfer data representing the one or more detected sound segments to the wireless transmission interface to be wirelessly transmitted; and

transfer data representing one or more play-back periods to the wireless transmission interface to be wirelessly transmitted, wherein the one or more play-back periods are each within one of the one or more effective silence segments and immediately preceding one of the one or more detected sound segments, wherein at least one play-back period has a length corresponding to the user-specified length of time, wherein at least one play-back period is shorter than the effective silence segment that it is within;

wherein data representing portions of the one or more effective silence segments that are not part of the one or more play-back periods are not transferred to the wireless transmission interface.

29. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 28, further comprising:

a microphone configured to receive the sound and generate the input data representing the sound; ~~and~~

~~a user interface configured to receive a user input of a desired value for at least one of the one or more play-back periods; and~~

~~wherein the instructions are further executable to cause the device to set a duration of the at least one play-back period based on the desired value.~~

30. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 28, further comprising a buffer configured to store a portion of the input data that represents at least one of the one or more play-back periods, wherein the portion of the input data is stored by the buffer prior to the device transferring the data representing the at least one play-back period to the wireless transmission interface.

31. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 30, wherein the buffer comprises a FIFO memory device.

32. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication device, comprising:
a user interface configured to receive input indicative of a user-specified length of time;
a microphone configured to receive sound waves;
an input interface coupled to the microphone and configured to generate input data representative of the sound waves;
a wireless transmitter;
a wireless processor; and
memory having stored thereon instructions executable by the wireless communication device to cause the wireless communication device to:
 identify one or more detected sound segments and one or more effective silence segments within the sound waves;
 wirelessly transmit the one or more detected sound segments to a receiving device; and
 wirelessly transmit one or more play-back periods to the receiving device, wherein the one or more play-back periods are each within one of the one or more effective silence segments and immediately preceding one of the one or more detected sound segments, wherein at least one play-back period has a length corresponding to the user-specified length of time, wherein at least one play-back period is shorter than the effective silence segment that it is within;
 wherein portions of the one or more effective silence segments that are not part of the one or more play-back periods are not transmitted.

33. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication device of claim 32, wherein the user interface is a knob, ~~instructions are further executable to cause the wireless communication device to:~~

~~receive a user input of a desired value for at least one of the one or more play back periods; and~~

~~set a duration of the at least one play back period based on the desired value.~~

34. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

a device receiving input indicative of a user-specified length of time;

[[a]] the device storing a digital representation of incoming sound in a buffer;

the device monitoring one or more attributes of the incoming sound for the presence of a first predetermined condition;

the device determining that the first predetermined condition is detected;

responsive to said determining, the device transmitting via a wireless transmitter:

a digital representation of the incoming sound corresponding to a first time period beginning ~~a predetermined length~~ the user-specified length of time before the first predetermined condition is detected and continuing until at least until the first predetermined condition is detected; and

a digital representation of the incoming sound corresponding to a second time period beginning when the first predetermined condition is detected and continuing until a second predetermined condition is detected.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the buffer is a FIFO (first-in, first-out) memory.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the one or more attributes include sound intensity level, wherein determining that the first predetermined condition is detected comprises determining that the sound intensity level of the incoming sound exceeds a first threshold.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the first predetermined condition is based on at least spectral power densities of the incoming sound.
38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the first predetermined condition is based on at least one moving average of an intensity level of the incoming sound.
39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said transmitting comprises converting the digital representations of the incoming sound into a format suitable for wireless transmission and subsequently transmitting the digital representations wirelessly.
40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the receiving the input indicative of the user-specified length of time includes receiving input via a dial . ~~further comprising: receive a user input of a desired value for the predetermined length of time before the first predetermined condition is detected; and~~
 ~~set a duration of the predetermined length of time before the first predetermined condition is detected based on the desired value.~~
41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the digital representation of the incoming sound corresponding to the second time period is transferred to the wireless transmitter from the buffer.
42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the first predetermined condition is detected by monitoring the digital representation of the incoming sound.
- 43-53. (Canceled)